

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

COMMENDING THE SERVICE OF WOMEN IN WORLD WAR II

Mr. McKEON. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 41) honoring the women who served the United States in military capacities during World War II and recognizing that these women contributed vitally to the victory of the United States and the Allies in the war, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 41

Whereas during World War II women in the United States were recruited into the Armed Forces to perform military assignments so that men could be freed for combat duties;

Whereas, despite social stigmas and public opinion averse to women in uniform, women applied for military service in such numbers that enrollment ceilings were reached within the first several years;

Whereas during World War II women served in the Army in the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps (WAAC) and the Women's Army Corps (WAC);

Whereas these women served the Army by performing a variety of duties traditionally performed by men;

Whereas in 1943 the Army removed the auxiliary status of the WAAC units, in unspoken recognition of the value of their services;

Whereas almost one-half of World War II WACs served in the Army Air Forces as officers and enlisted personnel, with duties including such flying jobs as radio operator, photographer, and flight clerk;

Whereas 7,315 of these Army Air Forces WACs were serving overseas in all theaters of war in January 1945;

Whereas General Eisenhower stated, "During the time I have had WACs under my command they have met every test and task assigned to them; their contributions in efficiency, skill, spirit, and determination are immeasurable";

Whereas at the end of the war 657 women were honored for their service in the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps and the Women's Army Corps, receiving medals and citations including the Distinguished Service Medal, the Legion of Merit, the Air Medal, the Soldiers' Medal for heroic action, the Purple Heart, and the Bronze Star;

Whereas in 1946 the Army requested that Congress establish the Women's Army Corp as a permanent part of the Army, perhaps the single greatest indication of the value of women in the Army to the war effort;

Whereas during World War II women served with the Army Air Forces in the Women's Auxiliary Ferrying Squadron (WAFS), the Women's Flying Training Detachment (WFTD), and the Women Air Force Service Pilots (WASPs);

Whereas women serving with the Army Air Forces ferried planes from factories to airfields, performed test flights of repaired aircraft, towed targets used in live gunnery practice by male pilots, and performed a variety of other duties traditionally performed by men;

Whereas women pilots flew more than 70 types of military aircraft, from open-cockpit

primary trainers to P-51 Mustangs, B-26 Marauders, and B-29 Superfortresses;

Whereas from September 10, 1942, to December 20, 1944, 1,074 WASPs flew an aggregate 60,000,000 miles in wartime service;

Whereas, although WASPs were promised military classification, they were classified as civilians and the 38 WASPs who died in the line of duty were buried without military honors;

Whereas WASPs did not receive official status as military veterans until March 1979, when WASP units were formally recognized as components of the Air Force;

Whereas during World War II women in the Navy served in the Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service (WAVES);

Whereas approximately 90,000 WAVES served the Navy in a variety of capacities and in such numbers that, according to a Navy estimate, enough men were freed for combat duty to crew the ships of four major task forces, each including a battleship, two large aircraft carriers, two heavy cruisers, four light cruisers, and 15 destroyers;

Whereas WAVES who served in naval aviation taught instrument flying, aircraft recognition, celestial navigation, aircraft gunnery, radio, radar, air combat information, and air fighter administration, but were not allowed to be pilots;

Whereas, at the end of the war, Secretary of the Navy James Forrestal stated that members of the WAVES "have exceeded performance of men in certain types of work, and the Navy Department considers it to be very desirable that these important services rendered by women during the war should likewise be available in postwar years ahead";

Whereas during World War II women served in the Marine Corps in the Marine Corps Women's Reserve;

Whereas more than 23,000 women served at shore establishments of the Marine Corps, and by the end of the war, 85 percent of the enlisted personnel assigned to Headquarters, Marine Corps were women;

Whereas during the war women were assigned to over 200 different specialties in the Marine Corps, and by performing these duties freed men for active duty to fight;

Whereas during World War II women served in the Coast Guard in the Coast Guard Women's Reserve (SPARs);

Whereas more than 10,000 women volunteered for service with the Coast Guard during the period from 1942 through 1946, and when the Coast Guard was at the peak of its strength during the war, one out of every 16 members of the Coast Guard was a SPAR;

Whereas the SPARs who attended the Coast Guard Academy were the first women in the United States to attend a military academy, and by filling shore jobs for the Coast Guard SPARs freed men to serve elsewhere;

Whereas by the end of World War II more than 400,000 women had served the United States in military capacities;

Whereas these women, despite their merit and the recognized value and importance of their contributions to the war effort, were not given status equal to their male counterparts and struggled for years to receive the appreciation of the Congress and the people of the United States;

Whereas these women helped to catalyze the social, demographic, and economic evolutions that occurred in the 1960's and 1970's and continue to this day; and

Whereas these pioneering women are owed a great debt of gratitude for their service to the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This resolution may be cited as the "Honoring American Military Women for Their Service in World War II Resolution".

SEC. 2. COMMENDATION AND RECOGNITION OF WOMEN WHO SERVED THE UNITED STATES IN MILITARY CAPACITIES DURING WORLD WAR II.

The House of Representatives—

(1) honors the women who served the United States in military capacities during World War II;

(2) commends these women who, through a sense of duty and willingness to defy stereotypes and social pressures, performed military assignments to aid the war effort, with the result that men were freed for combat duties; and

(3) recognizes that these women, by serving with diligence and merit, not only opened up opportunities for women that had previously been reserved for men, but also contributed vitally to the victory of the United States and the Allies in World War II.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. McKEON) and the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. CAPPS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. McKEON).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. McKEON. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H. Res. 41.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

Mr. McKEON. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H. Res. 41 commends the women who served in the military during World War II and their contribution to victory in that epic struggle. This resolution communicates a very simple statement about the importance of women who served the Nation in uniform in World War II. It is a statement that I suspect will be endorsed overwhelmingly today.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to look beyond the simple statement contained in H. Res. 41 and examine the resolution in greater detail. I urge my colleagues to take special note of this important and long overdue resolution, because, if they are like me, they will learn a great deal about World War II and the contribution of military women.

Mr. Speaker, the role of women in World War II was critically important to the war effort on many levels. From Rosie the riveter to the millions of homemakers tending their victory gardens, the contributions of women were vital to the allied victory.

This resolution tells the story of a special group of women and their very, very direct contributions to the war effort. It is the story of the women who stepped forward when the Nation was at risk and volunteered to serve in uniform. Not only did women perform

military duties with proficient skill, but often with incredible courage and at great personal sacrifice. They got the job done and, by doing so, freed men to be assigned to combat missions.

I am very proud of the support provided by Congress to the Women in Military Service for America Memorial that was opened at Arlington Cemetery. But if this House is to faithfully honor the historical contributions of women in the military, we must adopt this resolution.

I want to commend the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Mrs. MYRICK) for introducing this resolution and bringing it to our attention.

I think it is vital that this House and the Nation focus our full attention on this resolution. We must never forget the contributions and sacrifices of these American heroes, the military women of World War II. The world might well be a very different place if they had chosen to ignore the call to duty. I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I want to make it clear that the gentlewoman from California (Ms. SANCHEZ) was intending to open this part of our discussion, and she needed to leave, and her statement will be entered into the RECORD.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of House Resolution 41, honoring women who served in the military during World War II. Without the amazing commitment and incredible sacrifice of these brave women, our armed forces would never have been so efficient and effective at safeguarding freedom and democracy for the world.

During World War II, women from all over the country were recruited to perform crucial military assignments so that more men would be available for combat.

These women faced countless struggles. Many were looked down upon for renouncing their traditional role in society. Yet, women enrolled in the services in record numbers. In fact, by the end of World War II, more than 400,000 women had served the United States in some sort of military capacity. Some of these women were nurses. Because I am a nurse, my heart goes out to all of them and to all who served in our armed forces in World War II.

Mr. Speaker, I want to take this opportunity to tell my colleagues about a very amazing woman from my district, Jane Masterson. In 1945, Jane left her home in Kentucky to eventually become a Seaman First Class at a naval air base out of Memphis, Tennessee. When told she was too little to become an aviation machinist, she responded, "Dynamite comes in little packages." Jane served her country with strength and dignity and was eventually honor-

ably discharged due to a service-related injury.

Not content to end her service to the Nation with her World War II experience, Jane also served as the commander of the Disabled American Veterans Chapter 96 from 1985 to 1991. Jane was the only woman in this chapter. After 6 years of service in this capacity, her peers said that she was the best commander they ever had.

Mr. Speaker, tomorrow people from all over this great country of ours will gather to honor the men and women who willingly gave body and soul to defend this Nation and the values which make it great. At this time and in this place, it is very important that we remember the contributions of both our military men and women. For it is only through their combined efforts that we will succeed in continuing to protect democracy.

Mr. Speaker, I am very disappointed that our voting schedule does not allow us to return to our districts in time for veterans, at least some of us. I was looking forward to joining the Vietnam veterans in Santa Barbara to honor and to remember their bravery and sacrifice. Tomorrow, instead, I plan to walk from the Capitol to the Vietnam and Korean Memorials and to remember in silence the gift of these people, these veterans to this Nation.

One of these veterans I will remember tomorrow will be Jane Masterson and all of the other brave women who have served and continue to serve their country so well.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. McKEON. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Illinois (Mrs. BIGGERT).

Mrs. BIGGERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 41 to praise the women who have served our Nation's armed forces, and especially those that contributed to the victory of the United States in World War II.

All the women who aided in this victory deserve our praise today, but I would like to tell my colleagues about one specific woman, Mrs. Doris Pahls. Doris Pahls grew up in Chicago and, in 1941, the year the United States entered into the Second World War, she enlisted in the U.S. Army.

Mrs. Pahls became a nurse. In 1942, she was assigned to her post, a hospital in Belleville, Illinois. There she cared for soldiers who were sent home from the war, soldiers injured so severely they required hospitalization.

For 3 years, Mrs. Pahls nursed returning soldiers, giving them far more than medical care. She tended to their injuries, but she also gave them a long-awaited welcome home and listened to their experiences and stories.

When the war ended in 1945, Doris Pahls was discharged and returned home to Chicago. She married Louis F.

Pahls, who had courted her all through the war, consistently writing her. We did not use the telephone or empty mail at that time.

She continued nursing at St. Elizabeth's Hospital until she and her husband had their daughter Marie Pahls Ryan.

Anyone who knew Doris Pahls discovered a woman of intense and immense energy, humor, and caring. She did not talk often about herself and her service to the United States. In fact, few knew this sparkling grandmother was part of freedom's troop, a woman of the military.

I am sad to say that Doris Pahls passed away last month from cancer. But her service to her country will not be forgotten.

When Doris was interred, her daughter received the American flag that draped her casket. Her grandchildren and her great grandchildren heard the sounds of Taps and the firing of rifles, a testament to one of the many women who stood to honor their Nation in its hour of danger.

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE).

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from California for yielding time to me. I thank the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Mrs. MYRICK). Is this not a very special occasion? I thank the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. CAPPS) for, as the women in World War II, filling in and rising to the occasion.

We are sorry that the gentlewoman from California (Ms. SANCHEZ), who is en route to her district for meetings and ceremonies that she had to participate in, and the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. BROWN), and many, many other women who had planned to be here to support this are moving out to their district at this time.

But I wanted to acknowledge a specialness of this particular resolution, H. Res. 41, honoring the American military women for their service in World War II.

Mr. Speaker, I had the opportunity to participate in this ceremony at the Arlington Cemetery honoring women in the military and, in particular, taking note of the strength of women who participated, who signed up, who volunteered for World War II.

As we look at those black and white films, I remember or am reminded of seeing the factories. My understanding was that, as the men went off to war, there were many women who then had to fill the plants in making military equipment.

But there was not enough focus on the number of women who volunteered for actual duty in World War II. I do not know if my colleagues realize, Mr. Speaker, that so many women volunteered for armed services duty in World War II that enrollment ceilings were reached within the first several years.

Unfortunately, I do not know if many of us are aware that, even though the WASPS were promised military classification, they were classified as civilians, and the 38 WASPS who died in the line of duty were buried without military honors.

Just seeing General Eisenhower, President Eisenhower's son, yesterday, as they honored him by naming our Federal building after President Eisenhower, the General himself, said that, during the time that he had witnessed the service of the WACs under his command, they had met every test and task assigned to them. Their contributions and efficiency, skills, spirit and determination are immeasurable. I would consider him a general's general.

So this resolution is long overdue. On the eve of honoring our veterans, let me now say that it is so very important that we honor these women and thank all of our veterans across America for the service that they have given, because I believe that God may have given me life, but the veterans have given me the quality of life that we experience and the democracy that we admire in this country.

So to all of the women who have served in the military, and particularly those who volunteered, some 20,000 in the Marine Corps for World War II, this is a time of praise and acknowledgment, and I congratulate each and every one.

Mr. McKEON. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 4 minutes to the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Mrs. MYRICK), author of this resolution.

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from California for yielding to me, and I rise in support of the resolution to honor the women veterans of World War II.

Back in February, I introduced H. Res. 41 because Congress has never officially honored these trail-blazing women, and, thankfully, we are doing so now and appropriately so on the eve of Veterans' Day.

More than 400,000 women served in the military during World War II. They served as members of the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps, the Women's Army Corps, the Navy Women's Auxiliary Reserve, the Coast Guard Women's Reserve, and as Women's Air Force pilots.

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Indeed, 38 women Air Force pilots died in the line of duty and were buried without military honors. These women veterans did not earn equal pay or status; but even so, they were certainly more than willing to do the right thing and sacrificed to serve our country.

Nevertheless, it took decades for many of them to even earn recognition as military veterans. H. Res. 41 commends those women who, through a sense of duty and willingness to defy stereotypes and political pressures,

performed military assignments so that men could be freed for combat duties. One of those women is my good friend in Charlotte, Gaye Patterson, who was a nurse in World War II.

In addition, the bill recognizes that the military women of World War II, by serving with diligence and merit, not only opened up opportunities for women that had been reserved for men, but also contributed vitally to the victory of the United States and the Allies in World War II.

Mr. Speaker, by passing H. Res. 41, Congress will recognize the value of their service. It has taken a while, and, unfortunately, many of these women have now passed away, but this Veterans' Day we will give them praise and thanks that is long overdue all over this country.

I would like to thank again my friend, the gentleman from California (Mr. McKEON), for his leadership on this issue, and I urge all of my colleagues to support this resolution.

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume to briefly commend my colleague, the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Mrs. MYRICK), for her diligence and inspiration in bringing this wonderful resolution to the floor. I was very happy to be here to speak to it.

Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. McKEON. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. LAZIO).

Mr. LAZIO. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman from California (Mr. McKEON), my classmate and fine Member of this House; and I want to particularly thank the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Mrs. MYRICK) for bringing this important issue to the floor. I commend her for her commitment to providing women veterans the recognition they so richly deserve.

I am particularly pleased to have the opportunity to speak to this resolution because one of the 400,000-plus women being honored today is my own mom. I stand with my sisters, Gale, Roseann, and Judy in acknowledging and honoring her today.

In 1944, a war was going on. My mom, Olive Christensen of New York, not yet 20 years old, wanted to do her part. She entered the Navy Women's Auxiliary Reserve, or WAVES, that year and stayed on until the war's end in 1945. She left the comforts of home and family in Brooklyn and served in the Naval Hospital at the Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, Maryland.

As a Hospital Apprentice Second Class and later as a Hospital Apprentice First Class and Corpsman, she cared for the sick and wounded Marines and Naval personnel who were transferred back to the States from all fronts all around the world. While others were raising families, she was

patching up the wounded. While others were living their youth, she was maturing and carrying on the responsibilities of serving in our national defense. She spent long hours in a strange city far from home, helping our troops. It was the best way she could help her country in its greatest struggle.

Mr. Speaker, over 74,000 women in my home State of New York answered their Nation's call, serving in World War I, World War II, Korea, Vietnam, the Gulf, and in peacetime. Five thousand alone came from Suffolk County, where my district is located. We cannot find their contributions in many history books. Their sacrifices are not honored as they deserve to be. Their contributions and their sacrifices are often invisible.

Our mother's mothers also served in their time, and history treats their contributions in the same manner. Theirs are also invisible. Eleven thousand women served our country in the Naval Reserve during World War I and another 300 enlisted in the Marine Corps. By 1919, they were all discharged. It would take another war before we would open the door to women again.

To all the women being honored today, I have a personal request. It is this: please tell your children, your grandchildren, and even your great grandchildren how you served your country in its time of need. Do not let your experiences become invisible. Because of the path that you paved, women today make up over 13 percent of the armed forces of this great Nation. Their contributions are immense.

American women have served their country, but their efforts and contributions were never given the same recognition as their male counterparts until today. Today, as we prepare to honor our Nation's veterans, I am proud to say that women are veterans too. Today, as a Member of Congress and as a son, I am proud to say to my mother and to all the thousands of other moms who served, "Thanks, Mom. Thanks for your help in keeping us free."

Mr. McKEON. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume to commend the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Mrs. MYRICK) for her leadership in bringing this resolution to the floor, the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. CAPPS) for working with her on that, and all those who have spoken and those who were intending to speak and had to leave early to go back to their districts. Mr. Speaker, I urge support of this bill.

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of the resolution offered by Representative MYRICK in honor of the more than 400,000 women who served the United States in military capacities during World War II.

Tomorrow we honor all our veterans to whom our nation owes a tremendous debt. These courageous men and women sacrificed

so much—whether in World War I, World War II, Korea, Vietnam, or the Gulf War—to ensure the freedom and opportunity that we so often take for granted.

Now, however, we take a moment to honor the brave women who overcame the traditional stereotypes of their place in society to play vital roles in the effort to bring victory to the United States and its Allies in World War II.

It is our responsibility to repay these courageous women for the sacrifices that they made to ensure peace and freedom for this country. We must also express our appreciation for their strength in paving the way for future generations of women, opening new careers opportunities and possibilities.

We must thank the 150,000 women who risked their lives serving the Army despite the fact that they did not have the same protection as men under international POW agreements; the more than 30,000 women who served the Marines and the Coast Guard; the WASPs who ferried planes from factories over a total distance of 60 million miles to airfields; and the WAVES who taught aircraft recognition, navigation, air combat information, and other essential skills.

I urge my colleagues to honor these women for their determination and bravery and vote for this bill.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Veterans Day, that day on which all of us are called on to honor the sacrifices made for our country by those who serve in her armed forces and those who risked or gave their lives defending her.

It is fitting that on the day before Veterans Day, this House pays tribute to a special group of veterans who put their country before themselves in a time of great danger. H. Res. 41 recognizes our nation's women veterans for their service during World War II. Nothing we can do today can repay the debt we owe them. But we must note that debt, recognize it and make certain our children know how great it is.

In 1954, President Eisenhower pronounced November 11 "Veterans Day" to honor the veterans of all American conflicts. Previously, November 11 was known as Armistice Day, a reference to the November 11, 1918, armistice between the Allies and the Central Powers in World War I.

Unfortunately for us the war to end all wars was not the last of the Nation's conflicts. All Americans are deeply indebted to the more than 600,000 brave men and women who paid the ultimate price for the liberty that we enjoy today.

This resolution expresses the sense of the House honoring the women who served the United States in military capacities during World War II. It commends these women who, through sense of duty and willingness to defy stereotypes and political pressures, performed military assignments. Their efforts freed men for combat duties, opened up opportunities for women that had been reserved for men, but also contributed vitally to the victory of the United States and the Allies in World War II.

Serving in obscurity women World War II veterans served in the Women Air Force Service Pilots (WASPs), the Women's Army Corps

(WAC), the Navy Women's Auxiliary Reserve (WAVES) and the Coast Guard Women's Reserve (SPARs). By the end of World War II more than 400,000 women had served the United States in a variety of military capacities.

On Thursday, our nation will pause to honor our veterans who served our country with distinction. Whether through a parade, speech, or memorial service let us remember to honor all of our veterans including those women who served during World War II.

Mr. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, on the eve of Veterans Day—the day we set aside to honor our nation's veterans—I rise in support of H. Res. 41, a measure honoring women veterans and their contributions to the allied victory in World War II.

In 1941, Congresswoman Edith Nourse Rogers introduced H.R. 4906, the bill that established the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps (WAAC). Although faced with mounting opposition in the House, the bill was signed into law on May 15, 1942 as Public Law 77-554.

Two months later, similar legislation was introduced and signed into law establishing the Navy Women's Reserve (WAVES) and the Marine Corps Women's Reserve. Four months later, the Coast Guard Women's Reserve was established.

Women answered the call to duty without hesitation. The first group of 400 white and 40 black women were selected from among 30,000 applicants. They came from every state and a variety of circumstances. They all had two things in common—they had all volunteered and they had a desire to serve their nation.

Just as their male counterparts, they had put their lives, their goals, and their dreams—on hold to serve their country. By the end of World War II, some 400,000 women had served in the military.

There can be little doubt that these brave women performed a valuable role to the war effort during World War II. Historical documents are full of testimonials attesting to the excellence of women's contributions, disciplined character and their overall positive effect on the armed services. It is appropriate that we take this time to honor these brave women who served this nation with honor during World War II.

I also commend the sponsor of this measure, my colleague from California, LORETTA SANCHEZ. I thank and commend her for her leadership on this important measure recognizing the critically important contributions made by our nation's women veterans in World War II.

To all our veterans on the eve of the last Veterans Day of this century, I say thank you for a job well done. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to support H. Res. 41 and I urge the immediate passage of this bill.

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Res. 41.

Legislation honoring the brave women who served the United States during world War II.

I would also like to commend my colleagues, Representative MYRICK and my distinguished Chairman, Mr. BUYER, for all of their hardwork on this important legislation.

As we approach Veterans Day, we must thank all of our Veterans for providing us with

the peace that we enjoy in our prosperous country.

This century our nation has sent its sons and its daughters to war many times.

And today we are here to pay tribute to a special group that has answered this call to arms, the women who served our nation proudly during WWII.

To all the remarkable servicewomen out there, thank you for your service to America.

These individuals are the true pioneers who broke through the barriers and paved the way for future women serving in the military.

Women have been in our service since George Washington's troops fought for independence—clothing and feeding our troops and binding their wounds.

They were in the struggle to preserve the Union as cooks and tailors, couriers and scouts, and even as spies.

Some were so determined to fight for what they believed that they masqueraded as men and took up arms.

And more than 400,000 women served this great nation during World War II.

Yes, more than 400,000 women.

General Eisenhower is known to have stated, "During the time I have had WACs (members of the Women's Army Corps) under my command—they met every test and task assigned to them. Their contributions in efficiency, skill, spirit, and determination are immeasurable".

From Pearl Harbor to the invasion of the Philippines to the liberation of Europe, these brave women endured bombs, disease, and deprivation to support our Allied forces.

But despite this history of bravery and accomplishment, women were treated as second class soldiers.

They could give their lives for liberty, but they couldn't give orders to men.

They could heal the wounded and hold the dying, but they could not dream of holding the highest ranks.

They could take on the toughest assignments, but they could not take up arms.

Still they volunteered, fighting for freedom but also fighting for the right to serve to the fullest of their potential.

Well today, we are here to finally honor these brave women for the service they gave to this great nation during the Second World War.

We cherish your devotion, we admire your courage, and we thank you for your service.

Ms. JONES of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of this resolution acknowledging some of the bravest women of our country. By the end of WW II more than 400,000 women served the United States in military capacities and today I join over 200 of my colleagues in honoring the extraordinary accomplishments of these women.

Mr. Speaker, everyone forgets the contributions made by American women during WW II. There is never any mention of women veterans. When we hear WW II veterans everyone thinks about men only. Women, despite their merit and the recognized value and importance of their contributions to the war effort, were not given status equal to their male counterparts and struggled for years to receive the appreciation of the Congress and the people of the United States. In WW I women

demonstrated that they could perform virtually all civilian tasks as efficiently as men. This process carried over into WW II with even greater impact. To release men for combat, women in all belligerent countries worked on assembly lines in factories and shipyards. Millions served in the Armed Forces in non-combat roles. More than 350,000 women donned military uniforms and 6 million women worked in defense plants and in offices. One of the most important issues of women in the military was the fact that men did not want to take orders from women.

Women became "liberated"! They started to wear pants. On July 30, 1942, the Marine Corps Women's Reserve was established as part of the Marine Corps Reserve. On November 10, 1943, a statue named "Mollie Marine" was dedicated in New Orleans to honor all women Marines. In 1948 Congress passed the Women's Armed Service Act, which opened the door for women to serve their country in peacetime. Women moved beyond the image of "Rosie the Riveter". They established organizations such as: WAVE—Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service; WAC—Women's Army Corps; WASP—Women's Air Service Pilots; WAFS—Women's Auxiliary Ferrying Squadron; WAAC—Women's Army Auxiliary Corps; AWA—Aircraft Warning Service.

In 1977 Congress finally recognized WASP's as veterans and was awarded veteran status from the U.S. Air Force. In 1984, each was awarded the Victory Medal.

There is a memorial to the veterans in D.C. that reads:

In time of danger and not before, women were added to the Corps, with the danger over and all well righted, war is forgotten and the women slighted.

General Eisenhower strongly recommended that women be a part of the military. General Eisenhower stated, "During the time I have had WAC's (members of the Women's Army Corps) under my command they have met every test and task assigned to them; their contributions in efficiency, skill, spirit, and determination are immeasurable. Present day servicewomen owe a lot to Eleanor Roosevelt who encouraged women to "Be all you can be". Since then statistics of women in the Armed Forces have skyrocketed.

Mr. Speaker, women have come a long way. I express my strong support of this resolution and join my colleagues in saluting the women who have been all they could be for the United States of America.

Mrs. FOWLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 41, honoring the women veterans who served during World War II. These women are not only heroes because they sacrificed their lives and comfort for our country. They are also heroes in that they were in the forefront of a movement that opened up a world of opportunities for generations of women to come. These courageous and dignified women became role models for the young women who grew up at their skirt hems.

Though women had served in the military as far back as the American Revolution, they were only first recruited in World War I. More than 35,000 women answered their Nation's call in that war. More than 10 times as

many—over 400,000 women—served in the U.S. armed services during World War II. Regrettably, Mr. Speaker, more than 200 women died in action during World War II and 88 were prisoners-of-war. These brave women defied convention and donned the uniform of their Nation to fight for the freedom of other mothers and children overseas. Similarly, women served valiantly on the home front, taking the place of men who had vacated factories to occupy the front-lines of Europe and the Pacific.

Mr. Speaker, these women are our mothers, wives, friends, and colleagues. We all owe them a great debt of gratitude for the sacrifices they made on our behalf. It is fitting that we should begin the solemn celebrations for Veterans Day by passing this resolution and memorializing for generations to come the thanks of a grateful nation.

IN HONOR OF THE WOMEN WHO SERVED DURING WORLD WAR II

Ms. BERKLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 41, to honor the 400,000 courageous women who served the United States during World War II. These women have made an invaluable contribution to our Nation. And today, we are proud of their accomplishments and grateful for their service. During the War, these women worked as Air Force service pilots and as members of the Women's Army Corps.

These women served the Navy as members of the Volunteer Emergency Service, and they served at shore establishments of the Marine Corps. These women were an important part of our victory in World War II and by serving with diligence and merit, they opened up new opportunities for women everywhere.

Tomorrow is Veterans Day. In ceremonies across the country, we will honor those who risked their lives to serve our country. We can not and must not forget those who sacrificed to strengthen democracy around the world and defend our freedoms.

I urge my colleagues to support this resolution and honor the women who have served our country so well.

Mr. McKEON. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BARRETT of Nebraska). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. McKeon) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H.Res. 41, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the resolution, as amended, was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

UNITED STATES MARSHALS SERVICE IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 1999

Mr. BACHUS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2336) to amend title 28, United States Code, to provide for appointment of United States marshals by the Attorney General, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 2336

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "United States Marshals Service Improvement Act of 1999".

SEC. 2. APPOINTMENTS OF MARSHALS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 37 of title 28, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in section 561(c)—

(A) by striking "The President shall appoint, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate," and inserting "The Attorney General shall appoint"; and

(B) by inserting "United States marshals shall be appointed subject to the provisions of title 5 governing appointments in the competitive civil service, and shall be paid in accordance with the provisions of chapter 51 and subchapter III of chapter 53 of such title relating to classification and pay rates." after the first sentence;

(2) by striking subsection (d) of section 561;

(3) by redesignating subsections (e), (f), (g), (h), and (i) of section 561 as subsections (d), (e), (f), (g), and (h), respectively; and

(4) by striking section 562.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of chapter 37 of title 28, United States Code, is amended by striking the item relating to section 562.

SEC. 3. TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS; PRESIDENTIAL APPOINTMENT OF CERTAIN UNITED STATES MARSHALS.

(a) INCUMBENT MARSHALS.—Notwithstanding the amendments made by this Act, each marshal appointed under chapter 37 of title 28, United States Code, before the date of the enactment of this Act shall, unless that marshal resigns or is removed by the President, continue to perform the duties of that office until the expiration of that marshal's term and the appointment of a successor.

(b) VACANCIES AFTER ENACTMENT.—Notwithstanding the amendments made by this Act, with respect to the first vacancy which occurs in the office of United States marshal in any district, during the period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act and ending on December 31, 2001, the President shall appoint, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, a marshal to fill that vacancy for a term of 4 years. Any marshal appointed by the President under this subsection shall, unless that marshal resigns or is removed from office by the President, continue to perform the duties of that office after the end of the four-year term to which such marshal was appointed or until a successor is appointed.

SEC. 4. REPORT BY THE ATTORNEY GENERAL.

On or before January 31, 2003, the Attorney General shall report to the Committees on the Judiciary of the House and Senate the number of United States Marshals appointed under section 561(c) of title 28, United States Code, as amended by section 2 of this Act, as of December 31, 2002, who are people of color or women.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. BACHUS) and the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. SCOTT) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. Bachus).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BACHUS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members